

## Executive Summary

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|--------|-------------|
| Site:  | Wells G & H |
| Break: | 10.7        |
| Other: | 549650      |

### Site

Wells G & H Superfund Site  
Woburn, MA



SDMS DocID

549650

### Action

Administrative Consent Order to W.R. Grace & Co. and Unifirst Corporation for treatability studies and pump tests.

### Site Description

Wells G & H are two municipal water supply wells that drew water from the Aberjona River aquifer and supplied drinking water to the eastern portion of Woburn. These two wells were closed in 1979 when the State discovered high levels of volatile organics in them. Wells G & H were placed on the National Priorities List in December, 1982.

In January 1989, EPA completed its Remedial Investigation (RI) and Feasibility Study for the Wells G & H Superfund Site. The RI concluded that there are five sources of contamination to the aquifer that supplied water to the wells. The properties belonging to Unifirst Corp. and W.R. Grace & Co. are two of the five sources of contamination.

The remedy for cleanup of the Site as described in the Record of Decision, (ROD), signed on September 14, 1989, is the following: extract contaminated groundwater at each source area and treat by air stripping or a comparably effective method recommended by the responsible parties; remove soil contaminated with a mixture of volatiles, PCBs and pesticides and incinerate it on Site; and employ in-situ vacuum extraction for soil contaminated with volatile organics.

Both W.R. Grace & Co. and Unifirst Corp. have recommended different groundwater treatment systems than the air stripping technology chosen in the ROD, and are eager to begin pre-design studies to both confirm the effectiveness of their treatment systems and to determine the most efficient design for the systems. Both companies have demonstrated a strong interest in receiving this Order and beginning their studies immediately.

### Objectives of Order

1. To enable these two responsible parties to perform treatability studies and pump tests that will facilitate the design of groundwater treatment plants on their properties; and
2. To enable these two parties to initiate these studies promptly instead of waiting for a consent decree to be negotiated.

State Coordination

Massachusetts' DEP has been notified of EPA's intention to issue this Order and will be provided with a copy of this Order with its issuance.

Public Participation

The Regional Office of Public Affairs is developing a press release to be issued at the time this Order is signed by the Regional Administrator.